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ness but as it neither acts as an Astringent, nor in a Way observed by Physicians, it must still remain among other *Desiderata*.

IV. *A Letter from Mr. John Dove to Edmund Halley, LL. D. F. R. S. and Reg. Astron. at Greenwich, containing an Account of a Comet seen on February 29, 1731.*

From on Board the Monmouth, James Montgomery Commander, in Table-Bay, March 17, 1731.

S I R,

I Had the Honour to wait on the Governor the 8th of *February*, in Latitude 33° South, where he parted with us for St. *Hellena*.

The 29th of *February*, at about half an Hour past Ten at Night, I judge (having a good Observation at Noon) we were in Lat. $34^{\circ} 28'$ South, and Long. $12^{\circ} 35'$ West from Cape *Bonne Esperance*, the Moon shining very bright, being near the Full, we saw something very bright rise about West, which I judge to be a Comet: It set about East, passing from West to East in about five Minutes, between the Moon and our Zenith, and to the Southward of *Spica Virginis*; it carried a Stream of Light after it about

40° long, and 1° or 1° $\frac{1}{2}$ broad ; the Brightness of the Moon outshined the Comet as it came near it.

Please to excuse the Trouble of this by the Way of *Holland* ; but knowing your Curiosity in Astronomy, and viewing your Synopsis of the Astronomy of Comets, I thought it might be in some measure acceptable, though we had not Conveniency to take a very exact Observation of it. I am,

S I R,

Your most humble Servant,

JOHN DOVE.

P. S. Variation *per* Azimuth, *a. M.* about four or five Leagues West from this Bay, by two Compasses, 16° 23' West ; and by eight Observations in this Bay, Azimuths and Amplitudes, the Medium 15° 56' West.

V. *An Account of two Experiments of the Friction of Pullies.* By the Reverend J. T. Desaguliers, LL. D. F. R. S.

AS the Experiment which I made on *Thursday, January 14, 1730*, before the *Royal Society* (See *Philos. Trans.* N° 423.) did perfectly agree with